

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendment

The claims are modified in the amendment. Specifically, claims 1 and 14 are amended, and claims 9 and 17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new claims are added. Therefore, claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18-21 are present for examination. No new matter is added by these amendments. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 5, 8, 9, and 17 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, and that that claims 19-21 were indicated to be allowable in present form.

The claims have been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 9 into independent claim 1, and to incorporate the limitations of claim 17 into independent claim 14. Claims 1, 14, and 19 remain as the only independent claims. Each of the remaining dependent claims is believed to be patentable by virtue of its dependence from a claim having limitations identified in the Office Action as rendering the claim allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of

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PATENT

this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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